competitiveness of Indian exports in order to effectively counter the competition from our close competitors including China.

Setting up of "India House" to promote Trade/Exports

4149. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up an "India House" at strategically located places all over the World so that exporters are in a better position to display their products, have buyer-seller meets and also get feed back about the requirements in that particular region both quality-wise/quantity-wise of exports/imports in the countries; and

(b) if not, what remedial steps Government propose to take in the interest of Indian Industries to ensure that Indian goods be able to compete well with freely imported foreign items under WTO agreement both in quality and price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) Under the Market Access Initiative Scheme it is envisaged to assist Trade Promotion Organisations and exporters, *inter alia,* for setting up infrastructural facilities in the form of showrooms etc. for selected consumer items at strategically located places in different countries to be identified on the basis of market studies.

Export and Import with China

4150. SHRI CO. POULOSE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the comparative figures of total and bilateral trade (export-import) of India and China during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): The latest available DGCI&S data is as under:—

(US$ Million)

	1999-2000 (Apr.-Dec.)	2000-2001 (Apr.-Dec.)
India's Global Exports	26804.18	32066.60
Exports to China	386.97	570.61
India's Global Imports	35030.60	38225.14
Imports from China	917.57	1107.12
India's Global Trade	61834.78	70291.74
India-China Bilateral Trade	1304.54	1677.73

Tax Rebate for Internet users

4151. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MTNL proposed tax rebate for internet users;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) what is the final decision taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Release of telephone connections in Fatehpur, Bihar

4152. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of applicants of Fatehpur village, District Patna, Bih^r are waiting for telephone connections since long;

(b) if so, what &re the details in this regard;

(c) what are the reasons for not providing telephone connections;